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LETTER TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL FROM THE RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL

The attached letter, dated 30 May 1989, is being circulated at the request of the Resident Representative of Israel.

ATTACHMENT

LETTER TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL FROM THE RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL

The 5 April 1989 statement of the Official Spokesman of the Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs circulated in document INFCIRC/362, parts of which are pure Iraqi invention, merits no serious discussion. I have been instructed, however, to react to some salient points in the Iraqi statement in order to leave no doubt as to the Israeli position:

- 1. With regard to nuclear installations devoted to peaceful purposes, I wish to draw your attention to the statement made by the head of the Israeli delegation on 26 September 1985 at the 29th regular session of the General Conference: "Israel holds that all States must refrain from attacking or threatening to attack nuclear facilities devoted to peaceful purposes and that the safeguards system operated by the IAEA brings evidence of the peaceful operation of a facility. It is within this context that Israel reconfirms that under its stated policy it will not attack or threaten to attack any nuclear facilities devoted to peaceful purposes, either in the Middle East or anywhere else. I would like to emphasize that clearly no State in the Middle East is excluded ..." (see, in this connection, paras 31-39 of document GC(XXIX)/OR.277 and paras 37-40 and para. 68 of document GC(XXIX)/OR.280). Consequently, in resolution GC(XXIX)/RES/443 the General Conference of the IAEA resolved that Israeli statements "contain undertakings on behalf of their [the Israeli] Government in response to resolution GC(XXVIII)/RES/425" and thereby accepted Israel's statements on the inviolability of nuclear installations devoted to peaceful purposes.
- With regard to Israel's non-proliferation stance, let me recall that:
 - (a) Israel supports the principle of non-proliferation of nuclear wempons. It is the consistent and declared position of the Government of Israel that Israel will not be the first to introduce nuclear wempons into the Middle East; and
 - (b) We have repeatedly stated our willingness to start direct negotiations with the Arab States on the establishment of a nuclear—weapon—free zone in the Middle East, and we remain committed to this initiative.